

⁴
14. The imaging agent of claim ¹11 in which said biocompatible material is human serum albumin.

⁵
15. The imaging agent of claims ¹11 or ⁴14 in which said gas is air.

⁶
16. A concentrated, storable ultrasonic imaging agent comprising an aqueous parenteral medium containing a dispersion of microspheres (at least 80% of which have diameters in the range of 1 to 9 microns), said microspheres consisting of gas microbubbles enclosed by solid walls formed from heat-insolubilized protein, said imaging agent having a homogeneously dispersed concentration of greater than 1×10^8 microspheres per milliliter, said microspheres being stabilized in said medium as evidenced by maintaining a concentration of greater than 1×10^8 microspheres per milliliter for over 4 weeks at a temperature ²³ of 20 to 25C.

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17. The imaging agent of claim ⁶16 in which said protein is human serum albumin and said gas is air.

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18. The imaging agent of claims ⁶16 or ⁷17 in which said medium is an aqueous solution of the protein of the microsphere walls.

enc
In the specification, page 2, twelfth line from the end, correct the spelling of -- dissipate --.

Page 3, line 8, after "1985", and before the bracket, insert --, now Patent 4,718,433 --.

Submission of References

By the 1449 procedure, copies are submitted of five patents and three literature references. These submissions represent background prior art to the present invention, as discussed in the introductory portion of the specification, and further discussed herein.

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